

FCRPS Outstanding Individual Performance

Scott Cotner, senior technical electrical engineer, Hydroelectric Design Center, USACE

When an FCRPS plant suffers a forced generator outage, the exceptional problem-solving strategies of senior technical electrical engineer Scott Cotner of the HDC provide a lifeline.

His ability to create an accurate road map for complex work – often performed in-house – directly contributes to timely and cost-effective solutions for the FCRPS.

FCRPS Meritorious Service

Kathy Hacker, Large Capital Program Manager, BPA

Kathy's dedication and contributions to develop the Capital Working Group have been without peer. In her role as Large Capital Program Manager, she has worked effectively to build consensus within the group that represents a diverse cross-section of the FCRPS. Her thoughtful expertise and deliberative leadership have maintained a positive meeting atmosphere for all members, while ensuring that needed projects are funded and program execution remains high.

FCRPS Meritorious Service

Gary Brouse, Large Capital Program Manager, Seattle District, USACE

Through his effective leadership, dedication and selfless service, Gary Brouse has helped the Large Capital program at Corps' Seattle District to continue to thrive under very challenging circumstances in 2014.

FCRPS Meritorious Service

Mary Cox, Electrical Foreman 1, Grand Coulee, Bureau of Reclamation

As the Electrical Foreman 1 in the Third Powerplant, Mary Cox's steadfast drive to make sure the job's done right has been integral to the ability of this remarkable plant to keep producing reliable power to meet energy demands of the Northwest.

Over the course of four decades, Mary worked her way up at Grand Coulee from her first job as an office aide in the industrial truck shop in 1976. She later became a laborer, a machinist, then an electrician in the left and right powerhouse. She was named the permanent foreman I in the Third Powerhouse in 2004.

FCRPS Award of Excellence

Wesley Johnson, Electrical Engineer, Bureau of Reclamation

Wesley Johnson's unique set of professional and collaborative skills made a major impact on improving the reliability, safety and operations at three plants around the region in 2014.

From start to finish, Wesley provided outstanding design, engineering and project management for the Chandler Power Plant switchyard upgrade and transformer replacement, Green Springs Power Plant relay upgrade and the Roza Power Plant commissioning project.

FCRPS Award of Excellence

Christopher Wren, Senior Powerplant Operator, Portland District, USACE

In an era when preserving and passing on essential knowledge is a high priority as well as a great challenge around the FCRPS, Chris Wren is making a tremendous difference.

During his time leading and managing the O&M team at Lookout Point over the past two years, Chris has driven major improvements in knowledge management, including more complete O&M manuals and more effective use of Project Wise, SharePoint and archival tools.

FCRPS Award of Excellence

Steve Rich, Structural Crew Supervisor, The Dalles Lock and Dam, Portland District,
USACE

Steve's strong leadership and sound judgment have been an invaluable asset to the performance of a crew that has experienced a high turnover rate due to promotions and retirements.

He has led The Dalles' structural crew safely and efficiently through some very challenging events and assignments previously accomplished by a more seasoned workforce, strengthening and developing his crew's skills through timely training and assignments. They in turn have provided outstanding customer support to their fellow crews.

FCRPS Award of Excellence – Innovation

Paul Horvath, Powerplant Mechanic, Portland District, USACE

Environmental stewardship is among the highest priorities of the FCRPS and Paul Horvath's innovative oil-monitoring work for the USACE is making a unique contribution to this goal.

Paul's outstanding design of a generator bearing oil-level monitoring system significantly improves oil accountability and is readily transferrable to other plants that need to update oil-monitoring systems.

By helping prevent the loss of oil, his innovation provides important benefits: protecting water quality and avoiding cleanup costs, potential legal challenges and the loss of public confidence. It also protects FCRPS equipment from damage and reduces lost generation capability.

FCRPS Outstanding Team Performance

Chandler Powerplant Switchyard Upgrade and Transformer Replacement Project

The keys to the success of the Chandler Powerplant Switchyard Upgrade and Transformer Replacement Project were superb teamwork and collaboration among three Reclamation plants and half a dozen other teams and entities.

From start to finish, personnel from Chandler, as well as Roza and Green Springs power plants, were extremely involved in this complex project. Outstanding collaboration and direction by the Regional Office was essential to the safe and efficient work, while the Regional Power Office provided superb guidance and engineering, as well as technical oversight.

Another significant share of the success stemmed from exceptional support and partnership among the PN Regional Power O&M Group, CCAO personnel, PN Region contracting, PN Region construction office, the Denver Technical Services Center and the contractor.

FCRPS Team Excellence Award

Lower Granite Project Maintenance Crew

Lower Granite's maintenance crew had an excellent year, setting an internal project record of only six forced outages with a combined outage time of less than seven days in 2014. Critical PM completion rate hovered around 99 percent.

The crew achieved a safety record of zero lost time accidents and only one accident requiring medical treatment. This represents a notable accomplishment for a crew of about 30 working on a wide variety of industrial tasks in all weather conditions.

USBR Best Performer – Anderson Ranch Dam

This award goes to the plant with the highest FCRPS performance or Dashboard Index score over the past two years.

After ranking seventh and ninth out of 10 Reclamation plants in 2012 and 2013, Anderson Ranch made a dramatic improvement to ascend to the top spot this year.

Its staff accomplished this by being the only Reclamation powerplant to achieve the stretch goal for all of the Performance Indicators in 2014. They had a 93.4 percent

weighted availability factor, 0.1 percent weighted forced-outage factor, and no lost time accidents.

USACE Best Performer - Lost Creek Dam

For the second time in three years, Lost Creek was nearly perfect in meeting its performance targets, ranking first out of the 21 Corps plants in the FCRPS. An exceptionally well-run plant, Lost Creek ended the year with 91.2 percent availability factor, a 0.3 percent forced-outage factor and no lost time accidents.

USBR Most Consistent Performer – Palisades Dam

For the past two years, Palisades has ended the year ranked third in the FCRPS Index for Reclamation powerplants. Those scores give it the best two-year average among all Reclamation plants. In 2014, Palisades met a number of stretch targets by achieving a zero percent forced-outage factor and nearly 100 percent for all three maintenance metrics, Critical PM Rate, PM Completion Rate and Completion of Work.

USACE Most Consistent Performer - Chief Joseph Dam

Since the FCRPS Index was first developed in fiscal year 2012, Chief Joseph has been a model of consistent high performance, ranking second, fifth and second again out of 21 plants over the past three years. In 2014, Chief Joe met stretch targets in all maintenance PIs, as well as forced outage and Planned Generation Capacity targets. Another job well done.

Safety Award - Ice Harbor Dam

Safety is the FCRPS' most important performance metric and the No. 1 priority for all three agencies of the FCRPS. This award goes to the FCRPS plant that has accrued the most labor hours since its last lost time accident.

Ice Harbor has gone since August of 2012 without a lost time accident, safely accruing over 260,000 person-hours of labor, more than any other plant in the FCRPS.

In addition to its regular weekly tool-box safety meetings, Ice Harbor has begun quarterly “all-hands” safety meetings and weekly safety meetings just for operators, as well as posting safety statistics in the powerhouse for its crews to see.

Maintenance Excellence Award - Palisades Dam

In 2014, Palisades was nearly flawless in completing its maintenance work orders, averaging 99.9 percent completion rates for the three maintenance metrics we track – Critical PMs, PMs and all work orders.